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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,523	07/11/2003	Kok-Meng Lee	62004-1621	9107
24504	24504 7590 10/01/2004		EXAMINER	
THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP			PARSLEY, DAVID J	
100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW STE 1750		ART UNIT ·	PAPER NUMBER	
ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948			3643	*
			DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Diffice Action Summary    Total Annual Control of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address	•	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
Examiner   David J Parsley   3843   343   3443   3445	•							
David J Parsley  David Jepach with the conscious the pass of J CR 1.35(a)  David J Parsley	Office Action Summary							
The MALING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address → Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Elementor this may be available under the provisions of 3° CFR 1.136(a). In or event, however, may a reply be timely filled by the period for reply specified above is less than hirty (30) days, a reply whilin the stabulory minimum of thiny (30) days will be considered limely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than hirty (30) days, a reply whilin the stabulory minimum of thiny (30) days will be considered limely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than hirty (30) days, a reply whilin the stabulory minimum of thiny (30) days will be considered limely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than hirty (30) days, a reply whilin the stabulory minimum of the stable of the communication.  If the period for reply whilin the stable cause the application is become ABANOOKED (30 u.S. £, § 13.5).  Status  1)	,							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  **Lambda Shall Committed in the provisions of 37 GFR 1.35(6). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled before the provisions of 37 GFR 1.35(6). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled before the provisions of 37 GFR 1.35(6). The provision of 38 GFR 1.35(6). This action is FINAL.  **1)**  **2**  **1)**  **Responsive to communication(s) filed on **11.011/2.2003*  **2a)**  **1**  **1)**  **Responsive to communication(s) filed on **11.011/2.2003*  **2a)**  **1**  **1)*  **Status*  **1)*  **2**  **1)*  **Sends this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under **Ex parte Quayle**, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  **Disposition of Claims**  **4)**  **2**  **2**  **4)**  **2**  **10**  **10**  **2**  **10**  **2**  **10**	The MAILING DATE of this communication and							
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be waited under the provision of 3 or R1 x13(g). In or event, however, may a reply be timely filed wher tax (g) MOSITIS from the mailing date of this communication, each within the statutory windrum of this y 500 days will be considered timely.  If NO provided the piles specified above, the makemunication, each will in the statutory windrum of this yill of the piles and the statutory windrum of the yill provided with the mailing date of this communication.  Failur to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ARANDONED (36 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Official erit has there monitors after the mailing date of this communication, even if smally filed, may reduce any semire patent term solutions.  Status  1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003  2a) This action is FINAL.  2b) This action is non-final.  3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.  5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) Claim(s) 1-45 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119  12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for forei	Period for Reply	cars on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address					
1)   Responsive to communication(s) filed on   11 July   2003.     2a	THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period was Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing	86(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).					
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3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  Attachment(s)  1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  3 Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)								
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Application/Control Number: 10/618,523

Art Unit: 3643

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - Claims 1-15, drawn to device for grasping a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 183.
  - II. Claims 16-18, drawn to a method of grasping a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 179.
  - III. Claims 19-35 and 45, drawn to a device for receiving a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 53.
  - IV. Claims 36-42, drawn to a method of shackling live objects, classified in class 452, subclass 52.
  - V. Claims 43-44, drawn to a quick release system, classified in class 464, subclass 901.
- 2. Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced by another materially different product such as a shackle.

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Inventions I and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention III has separate utility such as transporting non-living objects. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions I and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together and they both have different functions where the invention I functions to grasp, support and convey live objects and the invention V functions to connect and disconnect objects to each other.

Inventions III and IV are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product such as by a regular conveyor in proximity to a shackle line.

Inventions III and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together and they each have a different function

with invention III transporting live objects and invention V functions to connect and disconnect objects to each other.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group V, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group III is not required for Group V, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J Parsley whose telephone number is (703) 306-0552. The examiner can normally be reached on 9hr compressed.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on (703) 308-2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Parsley
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3643

PETER M. POON SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Vit n Van

1/23/04